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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OAS, XM, SHUM
SUBJECT: OAS GA; ADOPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTIONS
USDEL 28
REF:STATE 167964
SUMMARY: SIXTH PLENARY SESSION ADOPTED HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTIONS ALREADY FAVORABLY REPORTED OUT BY COMMITTEE ONE (REFTEL) WITH ONLY URUGUAYANS OBJECTING STRONGLY TO OAS GA'S SUPPORT FOR REPORT ON URUGUAY. END SUMMARY.
1. SIXTH PLENARY SESSION OF OAS GA MET LATE INTO EVENING JULY 1 IN ADOPTING RESOLUTIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED OUT OF FIRST COMMITTEE(JURIDICAL AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS (REFTEL). ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS WAS APPROVED BY 22 COUNTRIES AND 3 ABSTATIONS (BRAZIL, ARGENTINA, AND URUGUAY RESOLUTION ON THE PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WAS SUPPORTED

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BY 21 COUNTRIES WITH 4 ABSTENTIONS. THE VOTING ON THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS ON BOTH URUGUAY AND PARAGUAY WAS THE SAME: 16 YES, ONE AGAINST, AND 8 ABSTENTIONS. RESOLUTION ON THE FUTURE SEAT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS WAS APPROVED BY 23 COUNTRIES WITH ONLY ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL ABSTAINING.
2. URUGUAYAN FOREIGN MINISTER ROVIRA WAITED UNTIL CONCLUSION OF VOTING ON ALL HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTIONS BEFORE TAKING THE FLOOR TO MAKE PREPARED STATEMENT. ROVIRA BEGAN BY DESCRIBING RESOLUTION AS UNJUST AND FULL OF MALICIOUS PROPAGANDA REVEALING THAT OTHER DELEGATIONS KNEW LITTLE ABOUT CURRENT CONDITIONS IN URUGUAY AND HIS COUNTRY'S HISTORIC TRADITION OF PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS.GOU, HE SAID, REJECTED THE COMMISSION'S REPORT AND THE OAS GA'S RESOLUTION FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:
1. IAHRC REPORT WAS BASED ON HEARSAY AND CONTAINED UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS;
2. FEW DELEGATIONS HAD READ THE OFFICIAL GOU REPORT;
3. GOU DISAVOWS THE IAHRC'S AUTHORITY UNDER THE CHARTER;

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4. ONSIGHT VISITS BY THE IAHRC ARE EXCEPTIONAL IN CHARACTER AND CAN ONLY BE UNDERTAKEN SUBJECT TO THE INTERNAL JURISDICTION OF EACH STATE;

5. THE IAHRC'S STATUTE LACKS JURIDICAL BASE.

3. ROVIRA DESCRIBED IAHRC VISITS AS A VIOLATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF NONINTERVENTION. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT A MEMBER STATE CANNOT BE SUBJECT TO JUDGMENT BY THE OASGA.

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SUCH A PRACTICE, HE SAID, AMOUNTED TO A VIOLATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM. ROVIRA'S TONE WAS DEFIANT AS HE EXPLAINED HOW HUMAN RIGHTS HAD TO BE VIEWED AGAINST THE BACK-DROP OF THE OVERALL SITUATION IN EACH COUNTRY. VANCE

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